



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of Jay M. Short

Serial No. 09/663,620

Filed: September 15, 2000

For: Combinatorial Screening of Mixed Populations of Organisms

Examiner: Nashaat T. Nashed

Group Art Unit: 1652

Confirmation No. 2110

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**Response to Office Action**

Sir:

In response to the nonfinal Office Action mailed June 2, 2004, the Applicant respectfully submits the following response and amendment to the claims.

A response was initially due September 2, 2004, but the Applicant is requesting an extension of three months, to December 2, 2004, to reply. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

The amendment to the claims begins on page 2. The Applicant's remarks begin on page 10.